[22nd July 1953

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Is it a fact that the Malabar Regional Transport Authority did not recommend fresh permits in order to help monopoly bus-owners who have already got a number of buses in particular areas? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I do not think that is the policy of the Government. During the discussion on the Surcharge Bill, Member after Member got up and said that new permits should not be issued and that the old permits must continue to be in force as otherwise the already meagre profits that they were getting will dwindle."

Construction of a bridge over the Kunderu, Guntur district.

* 860 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a request from the District Board, Guntur, to construct a bridge over the Kunderu passing between Ipurupalem and Thotavaripalem; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken on the same?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The matter has been referred to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation)-I for report and his reply is awaited."

SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH :—" In view of the fact that the people of the villages are experiencing considerable difficulty in crossing this river, will the Hon. Minister for Public Works look into the matter and do something? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" That is why it has been sent to the Chief Engineer for report."

Grant of subsistence loans to tailors, etc., in Rayalaseema.

* 861 Q.—SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(a) on what grounds tailors, barbers, proprietors of small shaving saloons and masons are excluded from the definition of artisans in the matter of granting subsistence loans in Rayalaseema; and

(b) whether the Government propose to reconsider the question?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" (a) No subsistence loans are granted by the Government to any village artisan in the famine-stricken areas. If ' Subsistence loans ' refer to the loans granted under the Madras Cottage Industries Loans and Subsidy Rules, 1948, on personal security to village artisans in the famine-stricken areas of Rayalaseema, it is true that tailors, barbers, proprietors of small shaving saloons and masons have been excluded from the scope of the grant of loans as they are not eligible for